

REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 23, 2006, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments and the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response thereto. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

By this amendment, Claims 1 and 6 have been amended. Claim 2 has been canceled. Thus, Claims 1, 3, and 5-6 are currently pending in the application and subject to examination. The Applicant submits that the amendments to the claims are fully supported in the specification as originally filed, for example, at originally-filed Claim 2. Accordingly, the Applicant submits that no new matter is presented herein.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 3, and 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nochida Hitoshi (Japanese Patent Application Publication JP 10-093503) in view of Taisuke Konishi et al. (Japanese Patent No. JP 411225099A, hereinafter "Taisuke Konishi"). To the extent this rejection remains applicable to the claims currently pending, the Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 1, as amended, recites a receiver device, comprising a plurality of antennas having different antenna gains, an antenna switching device for selecting one of reception signals received by the plurality of antennas, and supplying the selected reception signal to a signal processor arranged subsequent to the antenna switching device, a detector for detecting the level of a reception signal from each antenna, and a controller for controlling the antenna switching device for selecting a reception signal

having a lower level than a maximum input level of the signal processor, in accordance with detection result from the detector. Amended Claim 1 further recites that the controller operates to control the antenna switching device, in a manner such that once the level of a reception signal supplied to the signal processor becomes lower than a predetermined level, an antenna having a higher antenna gain than that of an antenna being selected is selected, wherein the controller has a judger for judging a reception state of each antenna, and when there are a plurality of antennas capable of receiving signals without any troubles, the antenna switching device is controlled so as to select a reception signal from an antenna having a low antenna gain.

The Applicant submits that the applied prior art fails to teach or suggest all the elements of amended Claim 1. Specifically, the applied prior art fails to teach or suggest at least “when there are a plurality of antennas capable of receiving signals without any troubles, the antenna switching device is controlled so as to select a reception signal from an antenna having a low antenna gain.”

The Office Action takes the position that the above-mentioned feature, first presented in originally-filed Claim 2, is taught by Nochida Hitoshi (see Office Action, page 3). However, Nochida Hitoshi merely teaches that if a reception signal *d* has a higher level than a threshold value, it is necessary to select an antenna 1a having a low gain, and that if a reception signal has a lower level than the threshold value, it is necessary to connect with antenna 1b having a high gain (see Nochida Hitoshi, paragraphs [0013]-[0014]).

Taisuke Konishi also fails to teach or suggest at least, "when there are a plurality of antennas capable of receiving signals without any troubles, the antenna switching device is controlled so as to select a reception signal from an antenna having low antenna gain." The Office Action cites Taisuke Konishi as teaching that the controller operates to control the antenna switching device, in a manner such that once the level of a reception signal supplied to the signal processor becomes lower than a predetermined level, an antenna having a higher antenna gain than that of an antenna being selected is selected. However, the Applicants note that Taisuke Konishi fails to teach or suggest that "when there are a plurality of antennas capable of receiving signals without any troubles, the antenna switching device is controlled so as to select a reception signal from an antenna having low antenna gain," as set forth in amended Claim 1. In other words, Taisuke Konishi fails to overcome or otherwise address the deficiencies of Nochida Hitoshi with regards to amended Claim 1. As such, the Applicant submits that amended Claim 1 is allowable over the applied prior art.

Claim 6, as amended, recites a method for selecting a receiving antenna in a receiving device, comprising detecting the level of a reception signal from each antenna in a plurality of antennas, based on the detection result from the detector, selecting one antenna from the plurality of antennas, the reception signal from the selected antenna having a lower level than a maximum input level of a signal processor, supplying the reception signal from the selected antenna to the signal processor, controlling the antenna switching device, in a manner such that once the level of a reception signal supplied to the signal processor becomes lower than a predetermined level, an antenna

having a higher antenna gain than that of an antenna being selected is selected, and controlling the antenna switch device in a manner such that when there are a plurality of antennas capable of receiving signals without any troubles, a reception signal from an antenna having a low antenna gain is selected.

Similarly to as discussed above with respect to Claim 1, the Applicant submits that the applied prior art fails to teach or suggest all the elements of amended Claim 6. Specifically, the applied prior art fails to teach or suggest, "controlling the antenna switch device in a manner such that when there are a plurality of antennas capable of receiving signals without any troubles, a reception signal from an antenna having a low antenna gain is selected." For at least the reasons set forth in the arguments above, neither Nochida Hitoshi nor Taisuke Konishi, alone or in any combination thereof, teach or suggest all the elements of amended Claim 6. As such, the Applicant submits that Claim 6 is allowable over the applied prior art.

To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. M.P.E.P. § 2143.03. For at least the reasons provided above, Applicants submit that Nochida Hitochi in view of Taisuke Konishi, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest all the elements of independent Claims 1 and 6.

Claims 3 and 5 depend from independent Claim 1. The Applicant submits that each of these Claims incorporates the patentable aspects therein, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 1, as well as for the additional subject matter recited therein.

Conclusion

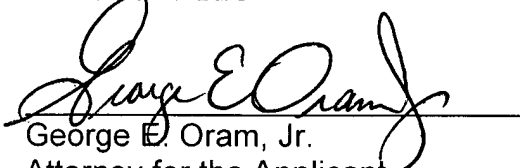
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, allowance of Claims 1, 3, 5, and 6, and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner believes that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below to schedule a personal or telephone interview to discuss any remaining issues.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, an appropriate extension of time is requested. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account Number 01-2300, referencing Docket Number 107156-00086.

Respectfully submitted,

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